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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Naoko ITO et al.

Confirmation No. Unknown

Serial No. 09/667,230

Group 2176

Filed September 22, 2000

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUE

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed sheet.

A concise explanation of the relevance of this item is that this reference was cited by the Australian Patent Office in the corresponding Australian Application Serial No. 61292/00. A copy of the Australian Official Action in which it was cited is attached hereto.

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a

S.N. 09/667,230

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robert J. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

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